

Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

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NSAE-00 RSC-01 EB-03 AID-10 COME-00 LAB-01 SIL-01

TRSE-00 XMB-01 AF-04 ARA-10 EA-13 EUR-10 NEA-06 L-02

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P R 050838Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 82

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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 8240

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, APER, UNIDO US

SUBJECT: UNIDO- SENIOR POSTS

REF: A. VIENNA 7812

B. STATE 182451

SUMMARY: DISCUSSION WITH ABDEL-RAHMAN RE US INTEREST
IN SENIOR UNIDO POSTS PROVIDED NO MEANINGFUL INDICATION
OF WHEN DECISION ON ISI DIVISION DIRECTOR WOULD BE
MADE. AS REGARDS PROBLEMS OF DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/
DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION, A-R STATED HE WISHED
EXAMINE THESE WITH SECRETARY GENERAL AND DAVIDSON
DURING HIS FORTHCOMING STAY IN NEW YORK. END SUMMARY

1. I CALLED ON A-R OCT 3, UPON HIS RETURN FROM
EXTENDED STAY IN EGYPT, TO FOLLOW UP ON MISSION'S
LETTER (REF A) SETTING FORTH US DESIRE TO CONTINUE
HAVING TWO OF UNIDO TOP LEVEL POSTS FILLED BY AMERICAN
NATIONALS.

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2. LENGHTY DISCUSSION FIRST ADDRESSED PROBABLE RESULT

OF ACABQ'S FAILURE TO ENDORSE SYG'S PROPOSAL FOR ASG DEPUTY DEEXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. A-R AGREED THAT PROSPECTS FOR FAVORABLE GA ACTION WERE NOT GOOD. I MADE CLEAR THAT US CONTINUED STRONGLY TO SUPPORT SYG'S PROPOSAL AND WAS STILL VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN THE POSITION SHOULD IT BE ESTABLISHED. I THEN ASKED WHETHER A-R CONTEMPLATED NEVERTHELESS ESTABLISHING THE POSITION AT D-W LEVEL IF THE GA SHOULD TURN DOWN THE PRESENT PROPOSAL. A-R RESPONDED THAT, WHILE HE WAS MORE THAN EVER PERSUADED OF THE DESIRABILITY OF BRINGING A DEPUTY INTO THE ORGANIZATION, HE WOULD NOT WISH TO MOVE TO ESTABLISH THE POST UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES WITHOUT FIRST HAVING ASSURED HIMSELF THAT WALDHEIM AND DAVIDSON WERE IN AGREEMENT. ACCORDINGLY, HE ANTICIPATED EXAMINING THIS QUESTION WITH THEM IN THE LIGHT OF DISCUSSION IN THE FIFTH COMMITTEE DURING HIS FORTHCOMING STAY IN NEW YORK.

(A-R LEAVES FOR NEW YORK TO ATTEND UNEP MEETING, ACC AND GA DISCUSSION OF UNIDO PROGRAM/BUDGET AND IDB REPORT O/A OCT. 13) IN THIS CONNECTION A-4 REMARKED, THAT, ALTHOUGH THE ACABQ'S OBSERVATIONS PERTAINED SOLELY TO THE QUESTION OF ESTABLISHING THE POST AT ASG LEVEL, OPPOSITION TO HAVING A DEPUTY EVEN AT D-2 MIGHT EMERGE AT THE GA, GIVEN THE OPPOSING VIEWS EXPRESSED ON THE PROPOSAL AT PC-II AND IDB-VII. A-R AGAIN ASSERTED, HOWEVER, THAT FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED HE WOULD WELCOME APPOINTMENT OF "THE RIGHT MAN" AS DEPUTY, NOTING THAT HE HAD IN EFFECT OFFERED THE POST TO STEDMAN.

3. I THEN REMINDED A-R OF OUR PREVIOUSLY STATED POSITION THAT WE WISHED TO CONTINUE TO HAVE TWO SENIOR UNIDIO POSTS FILLED BY AMERICANS. THEREFORE, GIVEN ALL THE UNCERTAINTIES CONCERNING THE DEPUTY AND SINCE THE POSITION OF DIRECT OF ADMINISTRATION WAS APPARENTLY THE ONLY EXISTING D-W LEVEL POST IN UNIDO, APART FROM ISI, FOR WHICH AMERICAN CANDIDATES MIGHT BE EXPECTED TO BE CONSIDERED, THE U.S. WISHED TO HAVE KEPT OPEN THE POST OF DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND EXPECTED TO SUBMIT ONE OR MORE NOMINATIONS FOR IT SHORTLY. IN
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ANY CASE, IT WOULD NOT WISH TO SEE AN INDEFINITE CONTINUATION OF THE PRESENT SITUATION IN WHICH THERE WAS NEITHER A DEPUTY POST ESTABLISHED NOR AN AMERICAN NAMED TO SUCCEED BIRCHKHEAD AND IN WHICH THE POST OF DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION WAS EFFECTIVELY FILLED BY ANOTHER NATIONALITY. AFTER A-R HELD FORTH AT SOME LENGTH ABOUT THE PRESSURES HE WAS UNDER TO EXPAND GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION AT THE LEVEL

OF SENIOR POSTS (HE MENTIONED APPROACHES FROM JAPAN, THE GDR AND BLACK AFRICA) I REMARKED THAT WE WOULD NEVER-THELESS CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR APPROPRIATE APPOINTMENTS OF AMERICAN NATIONALS. THIS PART OF THE DISCUSSION CONCLUDED WITH A-R'S COMMENT THAT THE QUESTION OF BIRCKHEAD'S SUCCESSOR NEEDED FURTHER CONSIDERATION.

4. AS REGARDS ISI DIVISION I EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE SUCCESSION TO STEPANEK SHOULD NOT BE ENTANGLED WITH THE QUESTION OF DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND NEED NOT WAIT ON DEVELOPMENTS WITH RESPECT TO THOSE POSITIONS. A-R AGREED. I THEN PRESSED HIM FOR SOME INDICATION OF WHEN HE MIGHT EXPECT TO REACH A DECISION OF STEPANEK'S REPLACEMENT. A-R SAID HE HAD CAREFULLY STUDIED OUR NOMINATIONS AND HAD SELECTED THREE NAMES WHICH HE REGARDED AS TOPPING THE LIST. HOWEVER, HE WISHED TO CONSIDER THEM FURTHER. PRODDING ON WHY THERE NEED BE FURTHER DELAY PRODUCED NO CLEAR EXPLANATION. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUERY WHETHER IT WOULD HELP IF HE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH ANY OF OUR NOMINEES WHO MIGHT BE ABLE TO COME TO NEW YORK A-R SAID HE DIDN'T THINK IT NECESSARY TO DO SO BUT WOULD ADVISE US OR USUN SHOULD BE CHANGE HIS MIND. WHEN I AGAIN ASKED WHEN WE MIGHT EXPECT A DECISION A-R SAID HE HOPED IT MIGHT BE MADE DURING HIS NEW YORK DISCUSSIONS. IN RESPONSE TO A COMMENT THAT BOTH PREVIOUS ISI DIRECTORS HAD SHOWN SHORTCOMINGS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE DIVISION AND HAD LEFT IT WITH SUBSTANTIAL PROBLEMS, I SAID THAT IN MY VIEW, WHATEVER THE DIVISION'S PROBLEMS, AN EXTENDED INTERREGNUM WAS NO SOLUTION AND THAT QUICK INSTALLATION OF A COMPETENT DIRECTOR WAS REQUIRED.

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5. COMMENT: WHILE THE INDICATIONS ARE THAT A-R ANTICIPATES FILLING THE ISI POST WITH AN AMERICAN, IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO DRAW HIM OUT ON WHICH OF OUR SPECIFIC NOMINATIONS HE REGARDED AS BEST MEETING HIS REQUIREMENTS NOR TO GET ANY PRECISE INDICATION OF WHEN HE WOULD MOVE TO FILL THE POSITION. FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, A-R DID AGREE, IN CONTRAST TO HIS REPORTED COMMENT TO HOMES (VIENNA 7398), THAT ACTION ON ISI SHOULD NOT BECOME ENMESHED WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION POSTS. AS TO THE LATTER THE CONVERSATION DID NOT CLARIFY MATTERS PARTICULARLY. FOR EXAMPLE, A-R GAVE NO INDICATION THAT HE REGARDS BARBOSA'S ASSIGNMENT TO THE DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION AS A STOP GAP. AS INDICATED IN PREVIOUS MISSION COMMUNICATIONS (PARA 6 VIENNA 7398) GETTING

AMERICAN INTO BIRCKHEAD POST (SHOULD DEVELOPMENTS DURING
GA INDICATE THAT NO MOVE WILL BE MADE IN THE FORESEEABLE
FUTURE TO BRING IN A DEPUTY) WILL PRBABLY REQUIRE VIGOROUS
ACTION IN NEW YORK.STIBRAVY

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